Docket No.: 1082.1042

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Hitoshi YAMADA, et al.

Serial No. Group Art Unit:

Confirmation No.

Filed: February 13, 2002 Examiner:

For: GAS DISCHARGE TUBE AND METHOD FOR FORMING ELECTRON EMISSION LAYER IN GAS DISCHARGE TUBE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND the pending claims in accordance with the following:

4. A method for manufacturing a gas discharge tube as claimed in Claim 1, in which the electron emission film is produced by the steps of:

injecting a coating solution at a predetermined amount from one opening of a tube having an opening in each of both ends thereof, said coating solution containing an organic metal compound that turns into an inorganic metal compound having an electron emission ability by a burning process;

forming a coating film on the entire inner wall of the tube by causing the coating solution to go along the inner wall of the tube while entirely sealing the opening of the tube; and

burning the coating film to form an electron emission film on the entire inner wall of the tube.

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REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to improve the form of the claims as originally-filed.

It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in the above-referenced application.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 2/12/05

By: _____
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND the following claims:

4. A method for manufacturing a gas discharge tube as claimed in [any one of Claims 1 to 3] Claim 1, in which the electron emission film is produced by the steps of:

injecting a coating solution at a predetermined amount from one opening of a tube having an opening in each of both ends thereof, said coating solution containing an organic metal compound that turns into an inorganic metal compound having an electron emission ability by a burning process;

forming a coating film on the entire inner wall of the tube by causing the coating solution to go along the inner wall of the tube while entirely sealing the opening of the tube; and

burning the coating film to form an electron emission film on the entire inner wall of the tube.